Alternative Gear Implementation Project

Washington Department of FISH and WILDLIFE

Pat Frazier
WDFW Region 5 Fish Program Manager

Photo by Wild Fish Conservancy

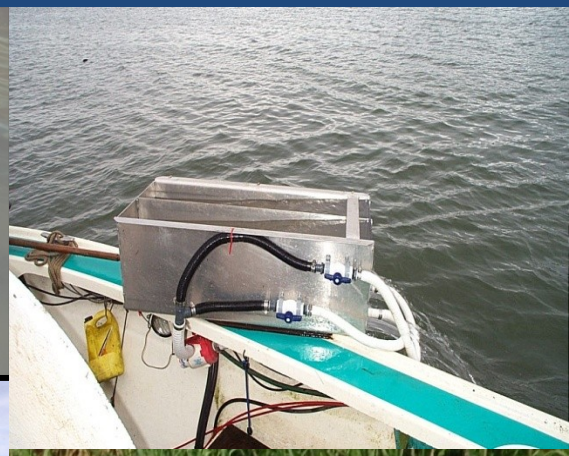
Why we’re doing the Project

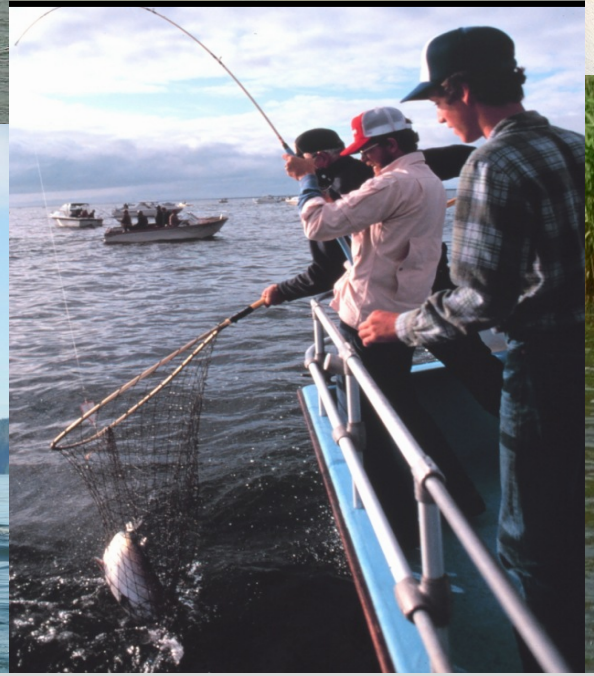
Its important for wild fish

Its important for communities

Its important for fishers

Ensure Fisheries Are Sustainable and Managed Consistent With ALL-H Recovery Efforts





Non-Treaty Columbia River Fisheries and ESA

- Harvest BIOP Conservation Levels
- Manage for Fishery Survival in All-H Comprehensive Analysis
- Fishery monitoring to Ensure Conservation Effectiveness

FCRPS Biological Opinion

Evaluate Methods to Develop or Expand Use of Selective Fishing

Evaluate Post Release Mortality for Selective Fisheries

2010 Alternative Gear Project

Gear:

- Purse Seines (6)
- Beach seines (5)
- Trap Nets (2)

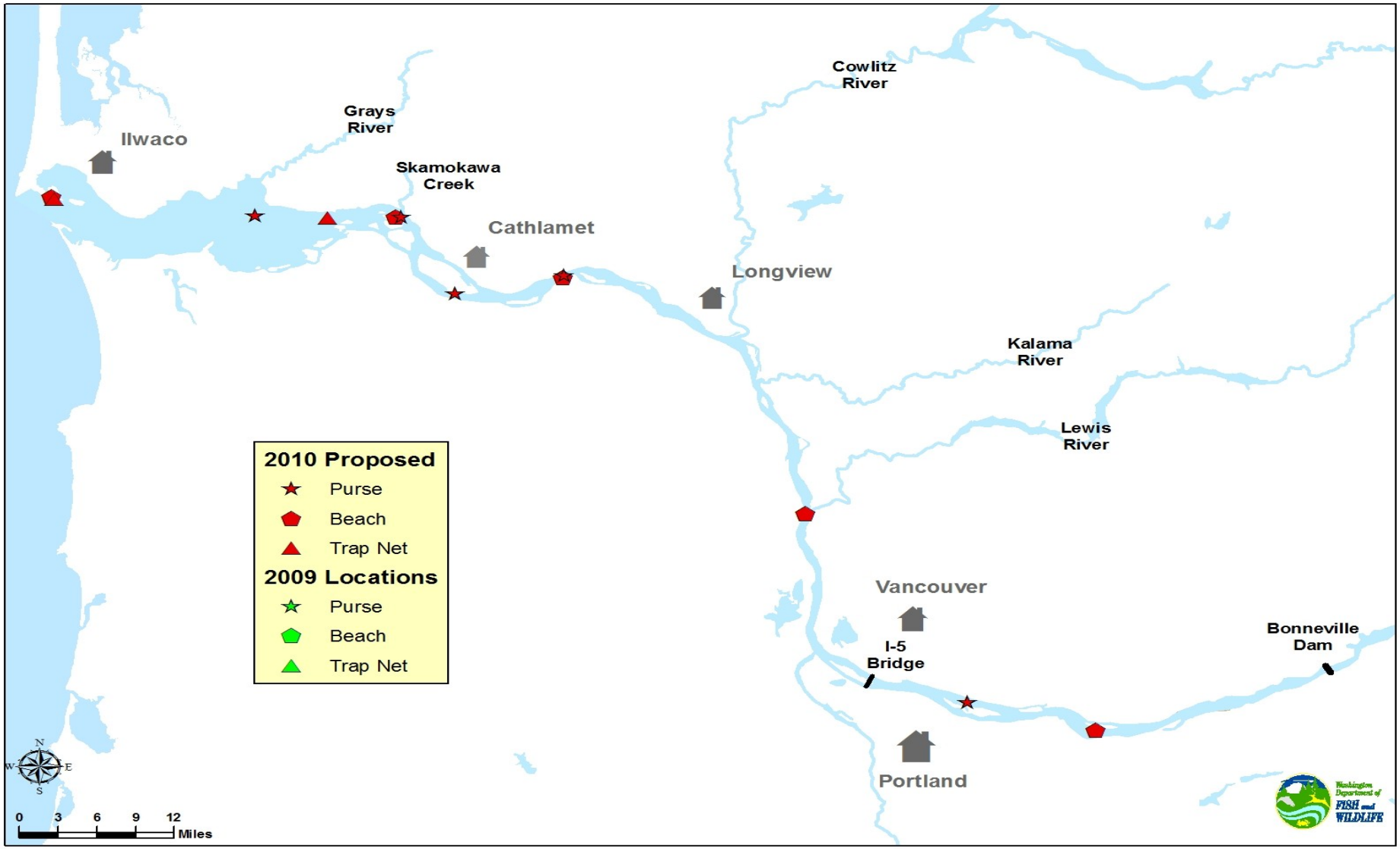
Species: Chinook and Coho

When:

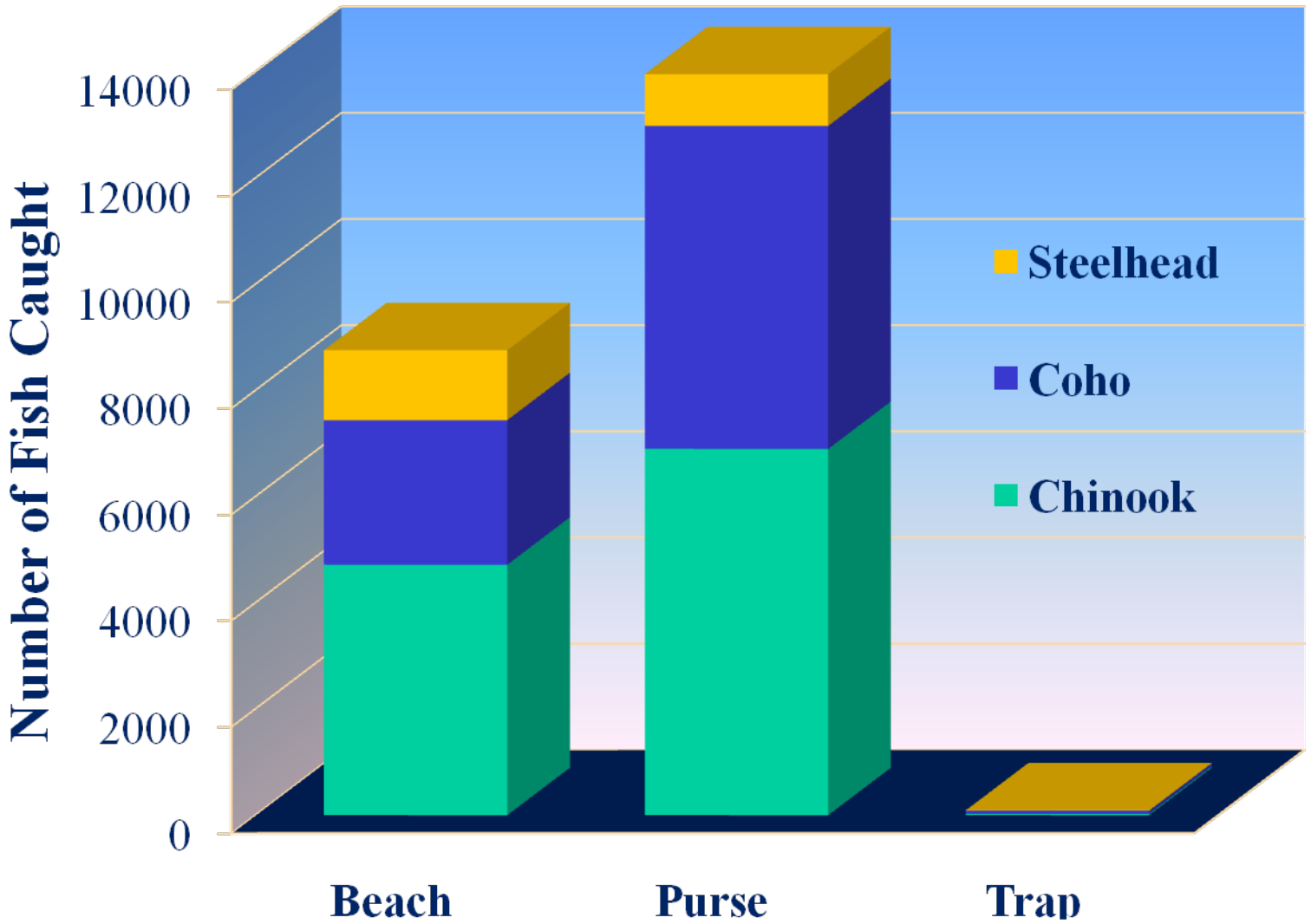
- 30 days per fisher
- Mid Aug. through late Oct

Photo by Wild Fish Conservancy

Location of Fishers



2010 Total Catch by Gear Type



2010 Mortality Data

<u>Test Fishery (immediate):</u>

- Excellent condition
  - Small jacks wedged
- [illegible]ate
- [illegible]356

<u>Mortality Study (24-48 hrs)</u>:

- Lack of suitable locations
- High otter predation

Future Mortality Studies

Test Group:

- Purse seines & beach seines
- Just below Bonneville Dam
- 1,000 tags per species per gear type

Control Group:

- Collect at Bonneville AFF
- Release near test fishing grounds
- 1,000 tags per species

Marking and Recovery:

- PIT tags
- Recoveries at Bonneville Dam

Photo by Wild Fish Conservancy

Control Group

ESA Coverage:

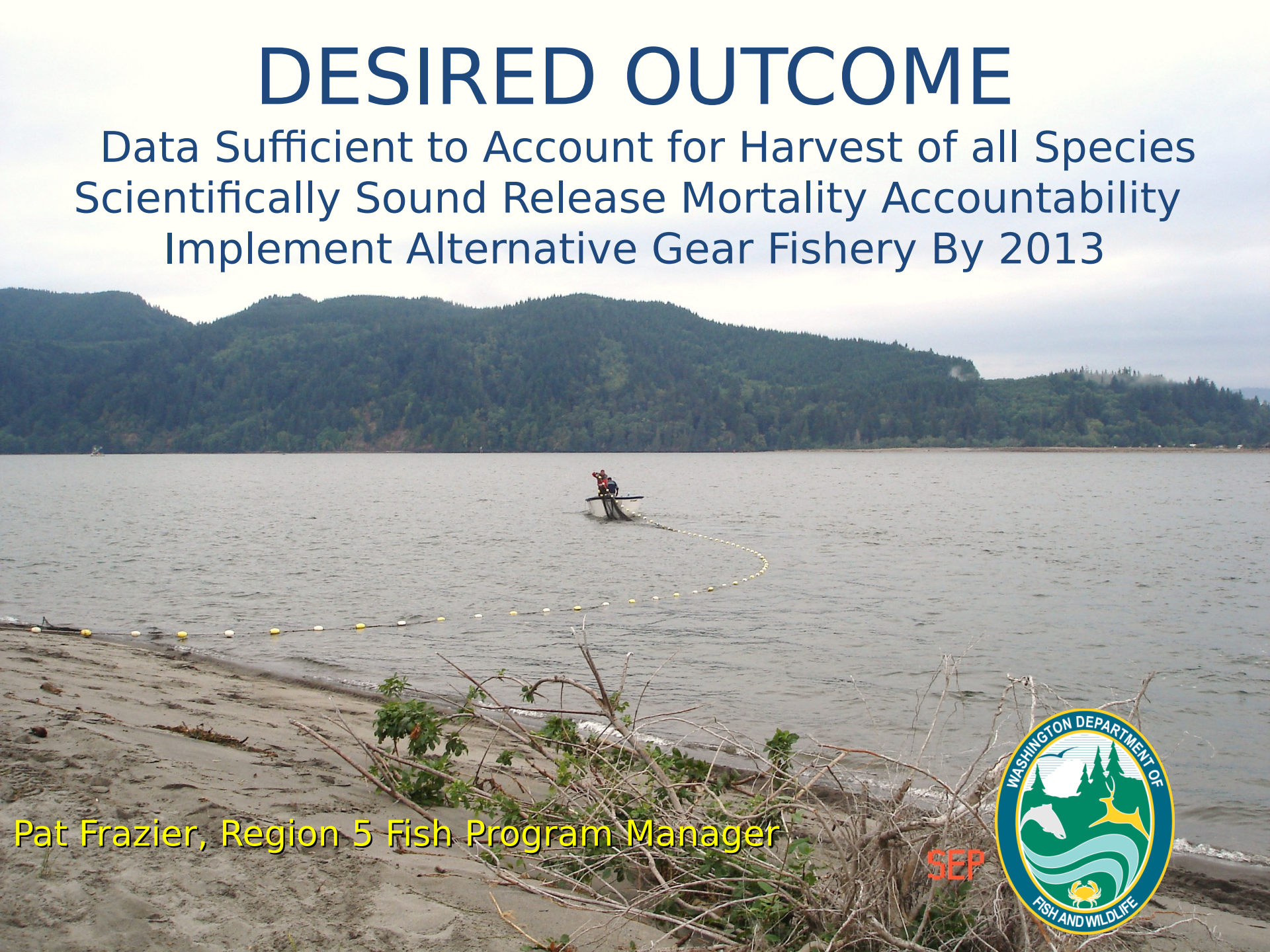
- Permit directly through NOAA Fisheries
- Mortalities included in research impacts for Alternative Gear Study

AFF Operation Alternatives:

- Increase days
- Additional hours per day
- Increased number of fish in holding tank
- Variation from temperature protocols

DESIRED OUTCOME

Data Sufficient to Account for Harvest of all Species
Scientifically Sound Release Mortality Accountability
Implement Alternative Gear Fishery By 2013



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